

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): A method in a client computer for collecting product data, comprising the computer implemented steps of:
 generating, at the client computer, a profile identifying a given site URL, an item to be queried, and a scan interval;
 on a periodic basis as defined by the scan interval, retrieving data from the given site URL to the client computer; [[and]]
 parsing, at the client computer, the retrieved data according to a site template to generate; and
 generating a data record ~~comprising~~ at the client computer including an item name and an associated price value.
2. (Original): The method as described in Claim 1 further including the step of storing the data record.
3. (Original): The method as described in Claim 1 further including the step of:
 comparing the associated price data to a given threshold condition; and
 taking a given action if the price data has a given relationship to the given threshold condition.
4. (Original): The method as described in Claim 3 wherein the given action is selected from the actions consisting essentially of issuing an e-mail notification, logging an event, and initiating an e-commerce transaction.
5. (Original): The method as described in Claim 1 further including the step of collecting associated price data for the item name over a given period of time to produce historical price data.
6. (Previously Presented): The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the profile includes matching criteria that must be met for the item name.

7. (Currently Amended): The method as described in Claim [[7]] 6 wherein the matching criteria is an exact match.
8. (Original): The method as described in Claim 6 wherein the matching criteria is a fuzzy match.
9. (Original): The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the data record also includes secondary source information.
10. (Currently Amended): A method, in a client computer, of collecting product data, comprising the steps of:
- generating a set of product profiles at the client computer, wherein each identifying product profile within the set of product profiles identifies a given site URL, a list of one or more included items to be queried, a scan interval, and a site template;
 - for a given product profile, periodically retrieving data from the given site URL to the client computer according to the scan interval;
 - parsing, at the client computer, the data retrieved from the given site URL according to the site template to generate a data record for each included item comprising an item name, an associated price value, and a secondary source; and
 - storing the data records at the client computer.
11. (Original): The method as described in Claim 10 wherein the given product profile also includes a list of excluded items.
12. (Original): The method as described in Claim 10 wherein the given product profile also includes a next scan date.
13. (Original): The method as described in Claim 12 wherein the given product profile also includes a threshold expression comprising a set of one or more triggers.

14. (Previously Presented): The method as described in Claim 13 wherein the given product profile also includes a threshold action that is triggered if the threshold expression resolves to a given value.

15-20. (Canceled)